

1-1 By: Hinojosa S.B. No. 539
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 19, 2017; February 8, 2017,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
1-4 March 14, 2017, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; March 14, 2017,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	Huffman	X		
1-10	Hughes	X		
1-11	Birdwell	X		
1-12	Creighton	X		
1-13	Estes	X		
1-14	Lucio	X		
1-15	Nelson	X		
1-16	Schwertner	X		
1-17	Zaffirini	X		

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 539 By: Zaffirini

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the qualifications for an impartial third party in
1-22 certain civil disputes.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 154.052(b), Civil Practice and Remedies
1-25 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-26 (b) To qualify for an appointment as an impartial third
1-27 party under this subchapter in a dispute relating to the
1-28 parent-child relationship, a person must complete the training
1-29 required by Subsection (a) and an additional 24 hours of training in
1-30 the fields of family dynamics, child development, and family law,
1-31 including a minimum of eight hours of family violence dynamics
1-32 training developed in consultation with a statewide family violence
1-33 advocacy organization.

1-34 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding Section 154.052, Civil Practice
1-35 and Remedies Code, as amended by this Act, a person who satisfies
1-36 the qualifications to be an impartial third party in effect
1-37 immediately before the effective date of this Act is not required to
1-38 comply with the requirements imposed by that section, as amended by
1-39 this Act, until January 1, 2018, to be qualified to serve as an
1-40 impartial third party under Subchapter C, Chapter 154, Civil
1-41 Practice and Remedies Code, and the former law is continued in
1-42 effect for that purpose.

1-43 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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